

# EASTER SUNDAY



*At the beginning of the service the new Paschal Candle, symbolizing the light of the resurrection will be lit. On it you will see the cross – the symbol of life and death; the first and the last letters of the Greek alphabet – Alpha and Omega – a reminder that Christ is the beginning and the end of all things; and the numerals of the current year – because Christ is with us now.*

Alleluia! Christ is risen!  
**He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

By his death he has trampled down death  
**And through the grave all life has been set free.**

## THE BLESSING OF THE LIGHT

Almighty God, bless this Paschal candle, to be a sign that we have passed from darkness into light, that our worship to be offered this day may be made bright by your presence, and that in all things, and at all times, your light may cast out the works of darkness and conquer evil through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen**

The Light of Christ  
**Thanks be to God.**

## THE GREETING

Alleluia! Christ is risen  
**He is risen indeed. Alleluia**

## INVITATION TO CONFESSION

Christ our Passover lamb has been sacrificed for us. Let us therefore rejoice by putting away all malice and evil and confessing our sins with a sincere and true heart.

*A time of silence follows.*

Jesus Christ, risen Master and triumphant Lord, we come to you in sorrow for our sins, and confess to you our weakness and unbelief.

We have lived by our own strength,  
and not by the power of your resurrection.  
In your mercy, forgive us.

**Lord, hear us and help us.**

We have lived by the light of our own eyes,  
as faithless and not believing.  
In your mercy, forgive us.

**Lord, hear us and help us.**

We have lived for this world alone,  
and doubted our home in heaven.  
In your mercy, forgive us.

**Lord, hear us and help us.**

## THE ABSOLUTION

*The priest declares God's forgiveness.*

May the God of love and power forgive you and free you from your sins,  
heal and strengthen you by his Spirit,  
and raise you to new life in Christ our Lord. **Amen**

## GLORIA IN EXCELSIS

**Glory to God in the highest,  
and peace to his people on earth.  
Lord God, heavenly King,  
almighty God and Father,  
we worship you, we give you thanks,  
we praise you for your glory.  
Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,  
Lord God, Lamb of God,  
you take away the sin of the world:  
have mercy on us;  
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:  
receive our prayer.  
For you alone are the Holy One,  
you alone are the Lord,  
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,  
with the Holy Spirit,  
in the glory of God the Father.  
Amen.**

## THE COLLECT

God of glory, by the raising of your Son you have broken the chains of death and hell: fill your Church with faith and hope; for a new day has dawned and the way to life stands open in our Saviour Jesus Christ.

**Amen**

**FIRST READING** Acts 10: 34-43

*After the reading*

This is the word of the Lord  
**Thanks be to God**

## GOSPEL READING Matthew 28: 1-10

Alleluia, alleluia.

Jesus said, 'I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, and everyone who believes in me will never die.'

**Alleluia**

*When the Gospel is announced the reader says:*

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to *N*  
**Glory to you, O Lord.**

*At the end*

This is the Gospel of the Lord  
**Praise to you, O Christ.**

## SERMON

### RENEWAL OF BAPTISMAL PROMISES

In baptism, God calls us out of darkness into his marvellous light.  
To follow Christ means dying to sin and rising to new life with him.  
Therefore I ask:

Do you reject the devil and all rebellion against God?  
**I reject them.**

Do you renounce the deceit and corruption of evil?  
**I renounce them.**

Do you repent of the sins that separate us from God and neighbour?  
**I repent of them.**

Do you turn to Christ as Saviour?  
**I turn to Christ.**

Do you submit to Christ as Lord?  
**I submit to Christ.**

Do you come to Christ, the way, the truth and the life?  
**I come to Christ.**

May almighty God who has given you the desire to follow Christ give you the strength to continue in the way. Amen

### PROFESSION OF FAITH

Brothers and sisters, I ask you to profess the faith of the Church.  
Do you believe and trust in God the Father?  
**I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

Do you believe and trust in his Son Jesus Christ?  
**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

Do you believe and trust in the Holy Spirit?  
**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

### PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

In joy and hope let us pray to the Father.  
That our risen Saviour may fill us [and ...] with the joy of his glorious and life-giving resurrection ...  
we pray to the Father.  
**Hear our prayer.**

That isolated and persecuted churches may find fresh strength in the good news of Easter ...  
we pray to the Father.  
**Hear our prayer.**

That God may grant us humility to be subject to one another in Christian love ...  
we pray to the Father.  
**Hear our prayer.**

That he may provide for those who lack food, work or shelter ...  
we pray to the Father.  
**Hear our prayer.**

That by his power war and famine may cease through all the world ...  
we pray to the Father.  
**Hear our prayer.**

That he may reveal the light of his presence to the sick, the weak and the dying, to comfort and strengthen them ...  
we pray to the Father.  
**Hear our prayer.**

That, according to his promises, all who have died in the faith of the resurrection may be raised on the last day ...  
we pray to the Father.  
**Hear our prayer.**

That he may send the fire of the Holy Spirit upon his people,  
so that we may bear faithful witness to his resurrection,  
we pray to the Father.

**Hear our prayer.**

Heavenly Father,  
you have delivered us from the power of darkness  
and brought us into the kingdom of your Son:  
grant that, as his death has recalled us to life,  
so his continual presence in us may raise us to  
eternal joy;  
through Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

## **THE PEACE**

The risen Christ came and stood among his disciples and said, 'Peace be with you.' Then they were glad when they saw the Lord. Alleluia.

The peace of the Lord be always with you

**And also with you.**

## **EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER**

The Lord is here

**His Spirit is with us.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give thanks and praise.**

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,  
always and everywhere to give you thanks,  
almighty and eternal Father,  
and in these days of Easter  
to celebrate with joyful hearts  
the memory of your wonderful works.  
For by the mystery of his passion  
Jesus Christ, your risen Son,  
has conquered the powers of death and hell  
and restored in all the image of your glory.  
He has placed us once more in paradise  
and opened to us the gate of eternal life.  
And so, in the joy of this Passover,  
earth and heaven resound with gladness,  
while angels and archangels and the powers of all  
creation say for ever the hymn of your glory.

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,  
God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory,  
Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

We praise and bless you, loving Father,  
through Jesus Christ, our Lord;  
and as we obey his command,  
send your Holy Spirit,  
that broken bread and wine outpoured may be for  
us the body and blood of your dear Son.

On the night before he died he had supper with his  
friends and, taking bread, he praised you.  
He broke the bread, gave it to them and said:  
Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;  
do this in remembrance of me.

When supper was ended he took the cup of wine.  
Again he praised you, gave it to them and said:  
Drink this, all of you; this is my blood of the new  
covenant, which is shed for you and for many for  
the forgiveness of sins.  
Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of  
me.

So, Father, we remember all that Jesus did, in him  
we plead with confidence his sacrifice made once  
for all upon the cross. Bringing before you the  
bread of life and cup of salvation, we proclaim his  
death and resurrection until he comes in glory.

**Christ has died:**

**Christ is risen:**

**Christ will come again.**

Lord of all life,  
help us to work together for that day when your  
kingdom comes and justice and mercy will be seen  
in all the earth.

Look with favour on your people,  
gather us in your loving arms  
and bring us with St. Mary and all the saints to  
feast at your table in heaven.  
Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, in  
the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
all honour and glory are yours,  
O loving, Father,  
for ever and ever.

**Amen**

## **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

As our Saviour taught us so we pray

**Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those who sin against us.  
Lead us not into temptation**

**but deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power and the glory are  
yours now and for ever.  
Amen**

### **BREAKING OF THE BREAD**

*The president breaks the bread.*

We break this bread  
To share in the body of Christ.  
**Though we are many, we are one body,  
because we all share in one bread.**

### **AGNUS DEI**

**Lamb of God, you take away  
the sin of the world, have mercy on us.  
Lamb of God, you take away  
the sin of the world, have mercy on us.  
Lamb of God, you take away  
the sin of the world, grant us peace.**

### **GIVING OF COMMUNION**

**Most merciful Lord,  
your love compels us to come in.  
Our hands were unclean, our hearts were  
unprepared;  
we were not fit even to eat the crumbs from under  
your table.  
But you, Lord, are the God of our salvation, and  
share your bread with sinners.  
So cleanse and feed us with the precious body and  
blood of your Son, that he may live in us and we in  
him; and that we, with the whole company of  
Christ,**

Send your Holy Spirit upon us that, though separated  
by distance, we may still, through faith, be partakers in  
the benefits of Christ's offering of his body and his  
blood. This we ask, through the same Jesus Christ our  
Saviour. Amen.

### **PRAYERS AFTER COMMUNION**

**Almighty God,  
we thank you for feeding us  
with the body and blood of your Son  
Jesus Christ.  
Through him we offer you our souls and bodies to  
be a living sacrifice.  
Send us out in the power of your Spirit  
to live and work  
to your praise and glory.  
Amen**

### **THE BLESSING**

The God of peace,  
Who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus,  
that great shepherd of the sheep,  
make you perfect in every good work to do his will;  
and the blessing of God almighty,  
the +Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit,  
be among you and remain with you always.  
**Amen**

### **THE DISMISSAL**

We are raised to new life with Christ.  
Go in his peace. Alleluia, alleluia.  
**Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.**